

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the portions of the specification identified below to read as indicated herein.

On page 1, in the cross-reference to related applications:

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/503,640, filed February 14, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,353,470. The present application also claims ~~priorities~~ priorities of (a) German Patent Application No. 100 37 870.6, filed August 1, 2000, (b) European Patent Application No. 01116916.6, filed July 11, 2001, and (c) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/255,214, filed December 13, 2000.